



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**JANUARY 31, 2005**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **GRANDVIEW MAN INDICTED FOR CHILD PORN**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that a Grandview, Mo., man has been indicted by a federal grand jury for advertising, distributing and possessing child pornography.

**James A. Shearin**, 39, of Grandview, was charged in a seven-count indictment returned under seal by a federal grand jury in Kansas City on Jan. 27, 2004. That indictment was unsealed and made public today upon **Shearin's** arrest and initial court appearance.

Counts One through Four of the federal indictment allege four separate instances in which **Shearin** published an advertisement seeking and offering to exchange and display child pornography in a Yahoo! Internet chat room on March 24, 2004.

Count Five of the federal indictment alleges that **Shearin** distributed child pornography over the Internet between Jan. 13 and March 24, 2004.

Count Six of the federal indictment alleges that **Shearin** was in possession of child pornography on June 14, 2004.

Count Seven of the federal indictment is a forfeiture count, which would require **Shearin** to forfeit to the government any property used to commit the alleged offenses, including a Sony Vaio computer seized from his residence on June 14, 2004.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Cynthia Phillips. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)